



Harris David
201701100584

RECEIVED

JAN 10 2017

OOG/CCOM

NAR for Mr. Stewart

Jacob Blaustein Building
165 East 56 Street
New York, NY 10022
T 212.751.4000
W ajc.org

Act: Gen Co

John M. Shapiro
President

David Harris
Chief Executive Officer
Edward and Sandra Meyer
Office of the CEO

Chair, Board of Governors
Harriet P. Schleifer

Chair, Board of Trustees
Matthew Bronfman

Officers

Matthew J. Coen
Chair, Marketing and
Communications

Henry Dubinsky
Chair, Audit Committee

Suzanne D. Jaffe
Treasurer/Secretary

Frank Linde
Associate Treasurer/
Budget Committee

Linda Mirels
Associate Chair,
Board of Trustees

Robert L. Newmark
Chair, Leadership
Development

Michael L. Tichnor
Chair, Regional Offices
Committee

Steven J. Wisch
Associate Chair,
Board of Trustees

Steven L. Zerkowitz
Chair, Program
Coordinating Committee

At-Large Members

Rene-Pierre Azria
Roberta S. Baruch
Richard L. Berkman
Ned Dubilo
Marvin Israelow
Martin Krall
Anthony E. Meyer
Ben A. Plotkin
Debra Smith Saidoff
Jeffrey E. Stone

Commission Chairs

David W. Inlander
Robert E. Lapin
Kim J. Pimley
Allan J. Reich

Honorary Presidents

Stanley M. Bergman
Robert H. Elman
Howard I. Friedman
E. Robert Goodkind
Alfred H. Moses
Bruce M. Ramer
Robert S. Rifkind
Richard J. Sideman
Harold Tanner

December 28, 2016

Governor Greg Abbott
Office of Governor Greg Abbott
PO Box 12428
Austin, TX 78711-2428

Dear Governor Abbott,

On behalf of the hundreds of thousands of members of the AJC community across the country, I write to thank you for adding your name in support of AJC's Governors United Against BDS initiative. Together with a prestigious, bipartisan group of colleagues, you have reaffirmed your support for the U.S.-Israel relationship and have clearly rejected the boycott, divestment, and sanctions (BDS) movement. To date, 35 governors have joined this effort, and we are working to ensure that this list continues to grow.

As you know, the BDS movement seeks to demonize, delegitimize, and isolate Israel, America's strongest democratic ally in the Middle East. AJC is committed to fighting this pernicious movement at every turn and to exposing it as antithetical to peace and to the values that we hold dear. We are heartened that a growing list of states rejects this dangerous movement, and we are truly proud to have your support.

We thank you for your continued leadership and your continued commitment to Israel.

Sincerely,

David Harris
Chief Executive Officer,
Edward and Sandra Meyer Office of the
CEO

Glenn Hegar

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

Hegar, Glenn
201803010334

NAR
Cat: 854 Leg
Re: 85 HB 89
Re: Fryboeck
Wittmann
Shewmaker

February 27, 2018

RECEIVED

FEB 28 2018

OOG/CCOM

The Honorable Greg Abbott
Governor, State of Texas
Capitol Building, Room 2S.1
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Governor Abbott:

I am in receipt of your February 21, 2018 letter regarding House Bill 89, prohibiting the State of Texas from contracting with and investing in companies that boycott Israel. I share your commitment to maintaining our state's exceptional and historic relationship with Israel. In fact, I am proud to note that the Texas Treasury Pool, which my office actively manages, has a current investment of \$60 million in Israel bonds, which reflects an increase of \$22 million since I took office in 2015.

House Bill 89 requires my office to prepare and maintain a list of all companies that boycott Israel. The legislation allows my office to rely on "publicly available information regarding companies, including information provided by the state, nonprofit organizations, research firms, international organizations, and governmental entities." The legislation also allows my office and other state governmental entities to rely on "a company's response to a notice or communication made [pursuant to the legislation]". In accordance with the legislation, my office has contracted with two separate research organizations to conduct in-depth research to determine which companies meet the statutory criteria to be included on the published list.

The Israeli-American Coalition for Action (Coalition) has supplied my office with additional names of companies, including Danske Bank, which they have identified as engaging in a boycott of Israel. In response to the Coalition's appeal, my office conducted additional due diligence on Danske Bank and the other entities put forward by the Coalition. We also requested that our research firms review the matter. The research firms both concluded that Danske Bank is not boycotting Israel as defined under Texas law. I would note that Texas law differs in various ways from anti-boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) legislation in other states, which may account for differences between listed entities from state-to-state. Furthermore, Danske Bank has certified to other states, including Arizona and Illinois, that it does not boycott Israel as defined in those states' respective statutes.

As I previously stated, Texas' strong relationship with Israel is very important to me, and so I will continue to scrutinize this matter. House Bill 89 provides that the list of companies that boycott Israel is to be updated at least annually, but no more frequently than quarterly, and so updates to the list will occur on a regular basis going forward. We will continue to scrutinize Danske Bank and any other entities that are put forward to us for inclusion on the list.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Phillip Ashley, Associate Deputy Comptroller for Fiscal Matters, at 512-463-4275 or contact me directly at 512-463-8617.

Sincerely,


Glenn Hegar

cc: Phillip Ashley



Comptroller.Texas.Gov

P.O. Box 13528

Austin, Texas 78711-3528

512-463-4444

Toll Free: 1-800-531-5441 ext: 3-4444

Fax: 512-463-4902

Pell Melanie 201705090250



RECEIVED

MAY 08 2017

OOG/CCOM

NAR/Thanks
Jacob Blaustein Building
165 East 56 Street
New York, NY 10022
T 212.751.4000
W ajc.org

John M. Shapiro
President

David Harris
Chief Executive Officer
Edward and Sandra Meyer
Office of the CEO

Chair, Board of Governors
Harriet P. Schleifer

Chair, Board of Trustees
Matthew Bronfman

Officers

Matthew J. Coen
Chair, Marketing and
Communications

Henry Dubinsky
Chair, Audit Committee

Suzanne D. Jaffe
Treasurer/Secretary

Frank Linde
Associate Treasurer/
Budget Committee

Linda Mirels
Associate Chair,
Board of Trustees

Robert L. Newmark
Chair, Leadership
Development

Michael L. Tichnor
Chair, Regional Offices
Committee

Steven J. Wisch
Associate Chair,
Board of Trustees

Steven L. Zelkowitz
Chair, Program
Coordinating Committee

At-Large Members

René-Pierre Azria
Roberta S. Baruch
Richard L. Berkman
Ned Dubilo
Marvin Israelow
Martin Krall
Anthony E. Meyer
Ben A. Plotkin
Debra Smith Saidoff
Jeffrey E. Stone

Commission Chairs
David W. Inlander
Robert E. Lapin
Kim J. Pimley
Allan J. Reich

Honorary Presidents

Stanley M. Bergman
Robert H. Elman
Howard I. Friedman
E. Robert Goodkind
Alfred H. Moses
Bruce M. Ramer
Robert S. Rifkind
Richard J. Sideman
Harold Tanner

May 2, 2017

Governor Greg Abbott
PO Box 12428
Austin, TX 78711-2428

Dear Governor Abbott,

On behalf of the hundreds of thousands of members of the AJC community across the country, I write to thank you for adding your name in support of AJC's Governors United Against BDS initiative. Together with a prestigious, bipartisan group of colleagues, you have reaffirmed your support for the U.S.-Israel relationship and have clearly rejected the boycott, divestment, and sanctions (BDS) movement. As you know, the BDS movement seeks to demonize, delegitimize, and isolate Israel, America's strongest democratic ally in the Middle East. AJC is committed to fighting this pernicious movement at every turn and to exposing it as antithetical to peace and to the values that we hold dear. We are heartened that a growing list of states rejects this dangerous movement, and we are truly proud to have your support.

To date, an impressive group of 45 governors has joined this effort, and I am pleased to share that AJC will publish a full-page ad in *The Wall Street Journal* on Monday, June 5, 2017 detailing the initiative and listing the supporting governors.

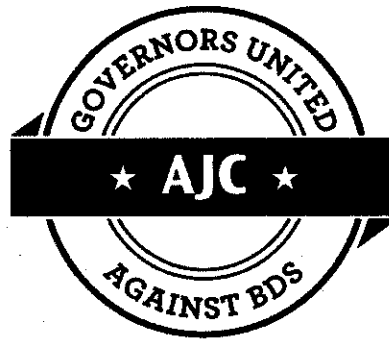
We thank you for your continued leadership and your continued commitment to Israel. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (312) 342-4516.

Sincerely,

Melanie Maron Pell

Melanie Maron Pell
Director of Regional Engagement

Att: 85th LS
MT: 85HB89-PRO
cc: M. Skypart
J. Steiner



(as of April 21, 2017):

Alabama – Gov. Kay Ivey	Montana – Gov. Steve Bullock
Alaska – Gov. Bill Walker	Nebraska – Gov. Pete Ricketts
Arizona – Gov. Douglas A. Ducey	Nevada – Gov. Brian Sandoval
Arkansas – Gov. Asa Hutchinson	New Hampshire – Gov. Christopher T. Sununu
Colorado – Gov. John Hickenlooper	New Jersey – Gov. Chris Christie
Connecticut – Gov. Dannel P. Malloy (Co-Chair)	New Mexico – Gov. Susana Martinez
Delaware – Gov. John C. Carney Jr.	New York – Gov. Andrew Cuomo (Co-Chair)
D.C. – Mayor Muriel Bowser‡	North Carolina – Gov. Pat McCrory*
Florida – Gov. Rick Scott	North Dakota – Gov. Doug Burgum
Georgia – Gov. Nathan Deal	Ohio – Gov. John R. Kasich
Idaho – Gov. C. L. “Butch” Otter	Oklahoma – Gov. Mary Fallin
Illinois – Gov. Bruce Rauner	Oregon – Gov. Kate Brown
Indiana – Gov. Eric Holcomb	Pennsylvania – Gov. Tom Wolf
Iowa – Gov. Terry Branstad	Rhode Island – Gov. Gina Raimondo
Kansas – Gov. Sam Brownback	South Carolina – Gov. Henry McMaster
Kentucky – Gov. Matt Bevin	South Dakota – Gov. Dennis Daugaard
Louisiana – Gov. John Bel Edwards	Tennessee – Gov. Bill Haslam
Maine – Gov. Paul LePage	Texas – Gov. Greg Abbott (Co-Chair)
Maryland – Gov. Larry Hogan	Utah – Gov. Gary R. Herbert
Massachusetts – Gov. Charlie Baker	Vermont – Gov. Phil Scott
Minnesota – Gov. Mark Dayton	Virginia – Gov. Terry McAuliffe
Mississippi – Gov. Phil Bryant	Washington – Gov. Jay Inslee
Missouri – Gov. Eric Greitens	Wisconsin – Gov. Scott Walker

**Immediate past governor*

‡The Mayor of the District of Columbia is the head of the executive branch of the government of Washington, D.C.

201811290340

WAK/CC
Cat: 85 HB 89
Me: 85 HB 89
cc: Shoemaker



MEADOWS COLLIER

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

MEADOWS, COLLIER, REED, COUSINS, CROUCH & UNGERMAN, L.L.P.

A REGISTERED LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP INCLUDING PROFESSIONAL CORPORATIONS

901 MAIN STREET, SUITE 3700
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202
(214) 744-3700
www.meadowscollier.com

RECEIVED

NOV 29 2018

OOG/CCOM

CHARLES D. PULMAN
Partner

DIRECT DIAL (214) 749-2447
DIRECT FAX (214) 292-2347
WATS (800) 451-0093
CELL (214) 649-1091
cpulman@meadowscollier.com

November 26, 2018

Honorable Glenn Hegar
Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts
Lyndon B. Johnson State Office Building
111 East 17th Street
Austin, Texas 78774

Re: *Texas Anti-BDS Law; HB No. 89; Chapters 808 and 2270 Texas Government Code (the "Code")*

Dear Comptroller Hegar:

I am writing you regarding a recent development invoking the Texas Anti-BDS Law that was passed in the 85th Legislature.


This law, HB No. 89, prohibits the State of Texas from contracting with a company for goods or services, or investing in a company, if the company is participating in a commercial boycott of Israel. Code Sections 2270.002 and 808.053. For this purpose, the term Israel means the nation of Israel and any territory controlled by Israel. Code Section 808.001(1). This law does not include an action taken by a company for ordinary business purposes. Id. In addition, Code Section 808.051(a) requires the comptroller to prepare and maintain a list of all companies that boycott Israel.

Last week Airbnb announced that they were removing listings in Israeli communities in the West Bank. A copy of this announcement is enclosed. This action by Airbnb is clearly covered by the Texas anti-BDS Law as a boycott of Israel because this action by Airbnb constitutes refusing to deal with, terminating business activities with and taking action to inflict economic harm and limit commercial relations with Israel and a person doing business in Israel and an Israeli-controlled territory. Furthermore, this action by Airbnb is not done for "ordinary business purposes" as is clearly evident by the Airbnb announcement.

For these reasons, I request that you include Airbnb as a "listed company" pursuant to Code Section 808.051. I further request that Airbnb be notified of this action pursuant to Code Section 808.053.

I appreciate your consideration of this request. If you have any questions or if I can be of any assistance, please contact me.

Truly Yours,

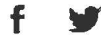

Charles D. Pulman

Enclosure

cc: Governor Greg Abbott
Lt. Governor Dan Patrick
Representative Phil King

BY AIRBNB (<https://press.airbnb.com/author/airbnb/>) / NOVEMBER 19 2018
HOMES (<https://press.airbnb.com/category/homes/>), NEWS (<https://press.airbnb.com/category/news/>)

Listings in Disputed Regions



There are conflicting views regarding whether companies should be doing business in the occupied territories that are the subject of historical disputes between Israelis and Palestinians.

US law permits companies like Airbnb to engage in business in these territories. At the same time, many in the global community have stated that companies should not do business here because they believe companies should not profit on lands where people have been displaced. Others believe that companies should not withdraw business operations from these areas.

For us, the question centers on the approximately 200 Airbnb listings in Israeli settlements in the West Bank and whether they should be available for rent on our platform. We are most certainly not the experts when it comes to the historical disputes in this region. Our team has wrestled with this issue and we have struggled to come up with the right approach.

In the past, we made clear that we would operate in this area as allowed by law. We did this because we believe that people-to-people travel has considerable value and we want to help bring people together in as many places as possible around the world. We also explained that going forward we would ask questions, listen to experts, seek out our community for their thoughts, and continue to learn.

Since then, we spent considerable time speaking to various experts — including those who have criticized our previous approach — about this matter. As a global platform operating in 191 countries and regions and more than 81,000 cities, we must consider the impact we have and act responsibly. Accordingly, we have developed a framework for evaluating how we should treat listings in occupied territories. When evaluating these types of situations, we will:

1. Recognize that each situation is unique and requires a case-by-case approach.
2. Consult with a range of experts and our community of stakeholders.
3. Assess any potential safety risks for our hosts and guests.
4. Evaluate whether the existence of listings is contributing to existing human suffering.
5. Determine whether the existence of listings in the occupied territory has a direct connection to the larger dispute in the region.

When we applied our decision-making framework, we concluded that we should remove listings in Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank that are at the core of the dispute between Israelis and Palestinians.

We know that people will disagree with this decision and appreciate their perspective. This is a controversial issue. There are many strong views as it relates to lands that have been the subject of historic and intense disputes between Israelis and Palestinians in the West Bank. Airbnb has deep respect

for those views. Our hope is that someday sooner rather than later, a framework is put in place where the entire global community is aligned so there will be a resolution to this historic conflict and a clear path forward for everybody to follow. As of today, this is an aspirational hope. People of goodwill have been seeking this goal for decades but we continue to hope for a durable, lasting peace.



Pulman Charles
201903071193
MEADOWS COLLIER

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

MEADOWS, COLLIER, REED, COUSINS, CROUCH & UNGERMAN, L.L.P.

A REGISTERED LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP INCLUDING PROFESSIONAL CORPORATIONS

901 MAIN STREET, SUITE 3700
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202
(214) 744-3700
www.meadowscollier.com

NAR/EO
cat: 85
mi: 85
AB 89
pro

CHARLES D. PULMAN
Partner

DIRECT DIAL (214) 749-2447
DIRECT FAX (214) 292-2347
WATS (800) 451-0093
CELL (214) 649-1091
cpulman@meadowscollier.com

March 4, 2019

Honorable Glenn Hegar
Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts
P.O. Box 13528
Austin, Texas 78711-3528

RECEIVED

MAR 07 2019

Re: *House Bill 89 and Airbnb*

OOG/CCOM

Dear Mr. Hegar:

On December 10, 2018, you sent me a letter regarding the applicability of House Bill 89 to the actions recently announced by Airbnb. I was pleased to learn last week that you have placed Airbnb on the list of companies that boycott Israel and are according Airbnb its rights under the law.

I am writing you this letter to thank you for your attention and actions with regard to this matter.

Truly yours,

Charles D. Pulman

CDP/kdk

cc: Honorable Greg Abbott, Governor of State of Texas
Honorable Dan Patrick, Lt. Governor of State of Texas
Honorable Phillip King, State Representative, District 61